

THE IMPACT OF GENDER ON ATTITUDES TOWARDS LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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Science has proven that the gender is not only a biological difference but also a collection of differences in thinking and behaving. Many researchers have been studying about the impact of gender differences on many fields such as health and communication. Therefore modern researchers have taken a number of attempts to distinguish gender on language learning. This study aims to examine the impact of gender on attitudes towards learning English as a second language. A qualitative research study was carried out via questionnaires and interviews to collect data. Participants of this study were 50 undergraduates (25 males and 25 females) selected from different years and faculties from the University of Kelaniya. The findings of this study show a significant tendency of females than males in the process of English language learning. This research study will provide guidelines for future research and implies the necessity to carry out new strategies for English language teachers to reduce the gender gap which prevails in the present society.

Key words: Gender difference, English language learning, attitudes

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